Serial No.: 10/719,405   Attorney Docket No.: 113335 CON2

CLAIMS

1-51. Canceled.

52.   (Currently Amended) <u>A method for establishing a call in a network, said</u>
<u>network including at least one network entity, the method comprising</u>
        <u>forwarding to a called party a setup message for the call that originated from a</u>
<u>calling party;</u>
        <u>receiving a setup acknowledgement message from the called party, said at least</u>
<u>one entity processing at least one of said call setup message and said setup</u>
<u>acknowledgement message in order to establish state information for said call;</u>
        <u>forwarding the received setup acknowledgement message to the calling party;</u>
<u>and</u>
        <u>routing end-to-end signaling messages between said calling party and said called</u>
<u>party without said end-to-end message being routed through said at least one network</u>
<u>entity;</u>
        ~~The invention of claim 50~~ wherein said routing is carried out only if the network
received a reserve message from at least one of the called party and the calling party.

53-71. Canceled.

72.   (Previously Presented) A method for exchanging messages for a call
between a calling party and a called party, comprising
        sending a setup message having a destination address from the calling party to a
gate controller;
        receiving a setup acknowledgment message from the called party; and
        enabling the exchange of end-to-end messages between the calling party and the
called party if at least one from the group of the calling party and the called party sent a
reserve message to an associated network edge device.

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73.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the end-to-end message is a ring message sent from the calling party to the called party without being sent through the gate controller.

74.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the end-to-end message is a ringback message sent from the called party to the calling party without being sent through the gate controller.

75.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the end-to-end message is a connect message sent from the called party to the calling party without being sent through the gate controller, the connect message being sent when the called party indicates an acceptance for the call.

76.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein a network edge device associated with the calling party connects a first network to a second network, the calling party being associated with the first network, the gate controller being connected to the second network.

77.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein a network edge device associated with the called party connects a first network to a second network, the called party being associated with the first network, the gate controller being connected to the second network.

78.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72 wherein:
the network edge device associated with the calling party connects a first network to a second network, the calling party being associated with the first network, the gate controller being connected to the second network, and
the network edge device associated with the called party connects the second network to a third network, the called party being associated with the third network.

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79-81. Canceled.

82.   (Currently Amended) <u>A method for use by a processing entity in a network to establish a call, the method comprising</u>

<u>forwarding to a called party a setup message for the call that originated from a calling party;</u>

<u>receiving a setup acknowledgement message from the called party, said processing entity processing at least one of said call setup message and said setup acknowledgement message in order to establish state information for said call;</u>

<u>forwarding the received setup acknowledgement message to the calling party; and</u>

<u>enabling end-to-end signaling messages to be exchanged between said calling party and said called party without said processing entity receiving said end-to-end messages;</u>

~~The invention of claim 79~~ wherein said enabling is carried out if the network received a reserve message from at least one of the called party and the calling party.

83-86. Canceled.

87.   (Currently Amended) <u>A method for use by a calling party to establish a call between said calling party and a called party, the method comprising:</u>

<u>sending a setup message for the call to the called party through at least one gate controller;</u>

<u>receiving a response to said setup message from the called party; and</u>

<u>sending at least one end-to-end message for the call to the called party, said at least one end-to-end message being addressed in such a way that said at least one end-to-end message is not routed through the at least one gate controller;</u>

~~The invention of claim 83~~ wherein said setup message includes a destination address for the called party in a first address space and said at least one end-to-end message includes an address for the called party in a second address space.

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88.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 87 wherein said at least one end-to-end message is one of a ring message, a ringback message and a connect message.

89.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 87 wherein said first address space is one of E164, a source string from a previous call, and a generic network service address space.

90.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 89 wherein said second address space is an IP address space.

91-95. Canceled.

96.   (Currently Amended) A method for use by a calling party to establish a call between said calling party and a called party in a network, comprising:

sending a first signaling message to the called party through at least one entity of said network;

receiving a second signaling message in response to said first signaling message from the called party through the at least one entity; and

sending at least one subsequent signaling message to the called party through said network after receiving the second signaling message, said at least one subsequent signaling message being addressed in such a way that said at least one subsequent signaling message is not routed through the at least one entity;

wherein said first signaling message is a setup message for the call, said second signaling message is a call setup acknowledgement message, and said at least one subsequent signaling message is an end-to-end message, and

~~The invention of claim 92~~ wherein said call setup message includes a destination address for the called party in a first address space and said end-to-end message includes an address for the called party in a second address space.

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97.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 96 wherein said first address space is one of E164, a source string from a previous call, and a generic network service address space.

98.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 97 wherein said end-to-end message is one of a ring message, a ringback message and a connect message.

99.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 97 wherein said second address space is an IP address space.

100-104.   Canceled.

105.   (Currently Amended) <u>A method for use by a called party in response to receipt of a setup message for a call from a calling party through at least one gate controller, the method comprising:</u>

<u>sending a response to said setup message from the calling party through said gate controller; and</u>

<u>sending at least one end-to-end message for the call to the calling party, said at least one end-to-end message being addressed in such a way that said at least one end-to-end message is not routed through the at least one gate controller;</u>

<u>wherein said call setup message includes a destination address for the called party and wherein said response includes a different address to which any end-to-end messages from the calling to party to the calling party should be sent, and</u>

~~The invention of claim 103~~ wherein said destination address is in a first address space and wherein said different address is in a second address space.

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106.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 105 wherein said first address space is one of E164, a source string from a previous call, and a generic network service address space.

107.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 106 wherein said end-to-end message is one of a ring message, a ringback message and a connect message.

108.   (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 106 wherein said second address space is an IP address space.

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